

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00074 212137Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 DHA-02 SAJ-01 /089 W

-----212158Z 002605 /70

R 211238Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5423

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 74

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, MZ

SUBJ: RUSSIAN NAVAL VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE

REF: MAPUTO 54

1. FOR PAST THREE DAYS LOCAL PRESS HAS GIVEN PROMINENT FRONT PAGE COVERAGE TO VISIT OF TWO RUSSIAN MILITARY VESSELS. WHEN SHIPS DOCKED JANUARY 18, THEY WERE OFFICIALLY WELCOMED BY TWENTY-ONE GUN SALUTE AND SENIOR GPRM MILITARY OFFICIALS. FOLLOWING DAY, PRESS APPLAUDED VISIT AND SAID IT WAS TAKING PLACE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE "FRIENDSHIP, SOLIDARITY, CO-OPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN THE GPRM AND THE SOVIET UNION."

2. NOTICIAS JANUARY 20 REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL, VICE PRESIDENT MARCELINO DOS SANTOS, MINISTER OF STATE
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OSCAL MONTEIRO AND LARGE NUMBER OF OTHER UNNAMED MEMBERS OF FRELIMO'S EXECUTIVE AND CENTRAL COMMITTEES VISITED SHIPS MORNING OF JANUARY 19. DURING VISIT, MACHEL REPORTEDLY PRAISED SOVIET UNION AS A "ZONE OF HUMAN LIBERTY" AND SAID SHIP VISIT WAS A SYMBOL OF THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP WHICH LINK THE MOZAMBIQUE ARMED FORCES AND THE SOVIET UNION.

3. COMMENT: VISIT OF MACHEL AND SENIOR GPRM LEADERS TO
SOVIET VESSLES, AS WELL AS FRONT PAGE PUBLICITY BEING ACCORDED
VISIT BY GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED DAILIES, IS INDICATION OF IM-
PORTANCE GPRM PLACES ON VISIT. FACT THAT VISIT IS TAKING PLACE
IS ALSO REFLECTION OF GROWING SOVIET INFLUENCE WITHIN GPRM.
DE PREE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY VISITS, DIPLOMATIC PROTOCOL, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MAPUTO00074
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770023-0505
Format: TEL
From: MAPUTO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770130/aaaaazxz.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 240861d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MAPUTO 54
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3539633
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RUSSIAN NAVAL VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE
TAGS: PFOR, UR, MZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/240861d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009